

2 Kings 7:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then they said one to another, We do not well: this day is a day of good tidings, and we hold our peace: if we tarry till the morning light, some mischief will come upon us: now therefore come, that we may go and tell the king's household.

Analysis

Then they said one to another, We do not well: this day is a day of good tidings, and we hold our peace: if we tarry till the morning light, some mischief will come upon us: now therefore come, that we may go and tell the king's household.

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 7: God's supernatural deliverance and human unbelief judged. The reference to kingship reminds readers that all human authority is subordinate to God's ultimate kingship. The prophetic ministry served as God's primary means of covenant enforcement, calling both kings and people to faithfulness. During this period, Israel and Judah struggled with persistent idolatry, particularly Baal worship introduced under Ahab and Jezebel.

The narrative demonstrates God's justice in judging covenant unfaithfulness while maintaining His ultimate purposes for redemption.

Historical Context

Historical Setting: 2 Kings 7 takes place during the Elisha prophetic ministry, approximately 850-800 BCE. The chapter's theme (Deliverance from Famine)

reflects the historical reality of God's compassionate provision through prophetic miracles while both kingdoms struggled with persistent idolatry. Archaeological evidence from this period includes royal inscriptions, administrative documents, and material culture that corroborate the biblical account while providing additional context for understanding the political and social dynamics at work.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does this verse contribute to understanding the theological message of 2 Kings 7 regarding god's supernatural deliverance and human unbelief judged?
2. What does this passage reveal about God's character, particularly His justice, mercy, and faithfulness to covenant promises?
3. In what practical ways should this text shape contemporary Christian thinking about faithfulness, worship, and obedience to God?

Interlinear Text

וַיֹּאמְרוּ	אֶל	יֶעֱהוּ	לֹא	כִּי	אֲנִי	עֲשֵׂה יָמָיו
Then they said	one	to another				We do
H559	H376	H413 H7453	H3808	H3651	H587	H6213
יּוֹם	הַזֶּה	יּוֹם	בְּשִׂמְחָה	הַזֶּה	וְאֲנִי	
is a day		is a day	of good tidings			
H3117	H2088	H3117	H1309	H1931	H587	
וְנִחַשְׁנוּ יָמָיו	וְנִחַשְׁנוּ יָמָיו	עַד	אִם	הַבֹּקֶר	וְנִחַשְׁנוּ	
and we hold our peace	if we tarry		light	till the morning	will come	
H2814	H2442	H5704	H216	H1242	H4672	
עוֹלָם	וְעַתָּה	לְכָל	וְנִבְּאָה	וְנִגְּדָה	בְּיָת	הַמֶּלֶךְ:
some mischief			that we may go	and tell	household	the king's
H5771	H6258	H1980	H935	H5046	H1004	H4428

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 52:7 (Kingdom): How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!

Philippians 2:4 (Parallel theme): Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.

Isaiah 41:27 (Good): The first shall say to Zion, Behold, behold them: and I will give to Jerusalem one that bringeth good tidings.

Nahum 1:15 (Peace): Behold upon the mountains the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace! O Judah, keep thy solemn feasts, perform thy vows: for the wicked shall no more pass through thee; he is utterly cut off.

2 Kings 7:3 (Parallel theme): And there were four leprous men at the entering in of the gate: and they said one to another, Why sit we here until we die?

Numbers 32:23 (Parallel theme): But if ye will not do so, behold, ye have sinned against the LORD: and be sure your sin will find you out.

